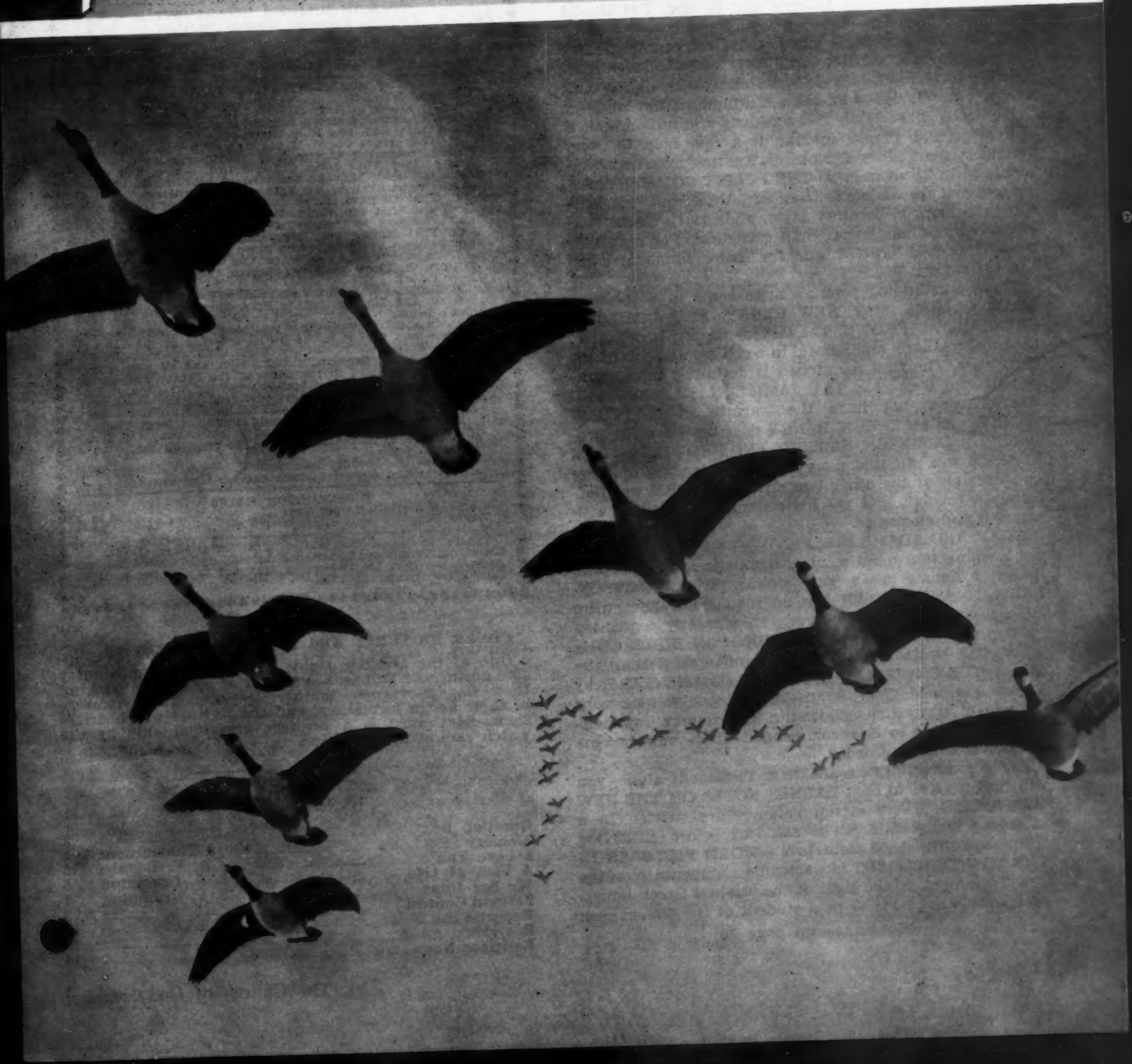
Vol. 44—No. 36

November 7, 1953

Church of God Evangel



The Question Box

NOTE: All questions addressed to "The Question Box" must be signed if they are to receive a reply. However, names will be withheld from publication if requested. Only the questions considered of general interest will be answered in the EVANGEL.

QUESTION: What Bible commentary do you recommend for a young minister?—A. E., Atlanta, Georgia.

I ASSUME YOUR QUESTION concerns commentaries on the entire Bible. You will find that commentaries vary greatly in style and in size. You should select a commentary that suits your particular need or desire. For serious Bible study, there is nothing greater than LANGE'S COMMENTARY AND THE HOLY SCRIPTURES, in 24 volumes. This is definitely a scholarly work and is a storehouse of exegesis and illumination on every verse in the Bible. While it is scholarly and profound, it is still clear and simple, making it a real help to every serious student of the Scriptures. Another excellent commentary, in 23 volumes, is THE PULPIT COMMENTARY. Its features are similar to those of LANGE, but it is written in a more elementary style, and, as its name suggests, is more homiletical than exegetical. For real Bible study I suggest LANGE, and for easier sermonic assistance, I suggest PULPIT.

Three outstanding commentaries come in 6 volumes: ADAM CLARKE, MATTHEW HENRY, AND JAMIESON, FAUSSET AND BROWN. The last mentioned is definitely the most scholarly and helpful in a critical analysis of the Scriptures. The first mentioned is definitely most evangelistic and devotional. JAMIESON, FAUSSET AND BROWN does not have the warmth of MATTHEW HENRY, and MATTHEW HENRY does not have the profundity of JAMIESON, FAUSSET AND BROWN. In ADAM CLARKE you will find more or less a blending of these two features of the other two. ADAM CLARKE was definitely a scholar, and yet his comments are filled with warmth and eloquence.

GRAY AND ADAMS BIBLE COMMENTARY is actually not a commentary, but a set of homiletic and illustrative material. Among one-volume commentaries, JAMIESON, FAUSSET AND BROWN has no real equal. The entire Bible is discussed verse by verse in a greatly condensed version of the six-volume set. ABINGDON BIBLE COMMENTARY is also good, but less fundamental than the others. THE CHRISTIAN WORKERS' COMMENTARY, by Doctor James M. Gray, is an excellent one-volume work of helpful suggestions. However, one-volume commentaries are never to be recommended where more extensive works can be afforded.

For a commentary on the New Testament alone, you will find it hard to beat BARNES NOTES ON THE NEW TESTAMENT. These eleven volumes are written in a vigorous evangelistic style and are most satisfying throughout. Dr. A. T. Robertson's WORD PICTURES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT is a splendid commentary on the New Testament, in the light of the original Greek language. You do not have to be a student of the Greek, even

(Continued on page 10)

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DECLARATION OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.
2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.
4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.
6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.
7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.
8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.
9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.
12. In the Lord's Supper; and washing of the saints' feet.
13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.
14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

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COVER PICTURE: Wild Geese—Ewing Galloway

One of the familiar sights of the American country side during the Fall season is that of wild geese winging their way to warmer Southern regions. The symmetry of their wedge formations and the instinct which drives them Southward is a mystery explained only by the watch care of their Creator.

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MEMORY

By FLOYD TIMMERMAN

Text: Proverbs 10:7, "The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot."

THERE IS NOTHING GREATER and more important and yet can be more tantalizing to man than memory. It is just what the text implies it to be. The memory of the just is blessed, but the memory of the wicked is only a sad reminder of their evil deeds and where they are headed for doing them.

I have often thought about the song *Precious Memories,* which is sung quite often at funerals. While it is being sung, many times I wonder if the person deceased has left behind cherished memories of which the family can and will be fond, or memories which will bring sadness to their hearts.

I am from a family of twelve children, of whom ten are living. Even though I am married and have three children of my own, I like to think of the good old days gone by when we gathered around the large homemade family table. Dad made a bench for one side of the table for the smaller children, and we all knew our places. My dad would pray, or mother would pray until about everything was cold. She would want to call all of the children's names in prayer and pray for her neighbors. I also like to remember the times when we all would kneel around the family altar. My father has been dead ten years, but his good life still lingers in my mind, and memories of him are precious. While there are memories of which I am very fond, I am also reminded of unpleasant things.

How many of us but what, if we had the power to turn back the pages of our lives, would act and do a lot different than what we did? Some of us would come to Christ earlier than we did and would not do this or that.

I read the story of a young girl to whom was born an illegitimate child. Walking down the street one dark night, her child of a few weeks in her arms, she began to think of her great sin and how the people looked down on her for stooping so low in degradation and shame. She thought if she destroyed her child it would be better for her. As she choked the child, it screamed. After it was dead, she threw its body into a large hedge. The police discovered the body and soon had the mother behind bars. The young mother began to get hysterical. Her father and mother tried to console her, without success. They sent for their pastor. As he began to talk to her it seemed that she would be all right, but in a few minutes she screamed aloud these words, "Will I always hear the cries of my baby as I threw its body in the hedge?" Yes, her memory was getting the best of her.

Many people look back on their past with remorse and regret. Looking back over my life, there are things I wish were not there; but I am glad, though we cannot do away with them ourselves, we can have every sin blotted out by and through the blood of Jesus Christ.

SINCE THE PAST is gone, let us look to the present and future. Friend, remember when the leaves in God's book are turned, and you step from this stage of action into the vast eternity, you will live with your memory. If you go to heaven, you will have your memory, and should you go to hell, you will remember. You might ask, "Remember what?" You will think of the many times you trampled the Spirit of God under your feet and said, "No, not now." The rich man lifted his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham and Lazarus in his bosom, and cried for help. Did he remember? He knew Lazarus as the beggar that ate the crumbs that fell from his table. After he discovered he could not be helped, he remembered his five brothers and wanted someone to tell them not to come where he was.

As I was pastoring at one place, I visited a man who had become a real friend to me and whom I appreciated very much, but he was a sinner. I begged him to get right with God, and often he would say, "Preacher, I appreciate your interest in me, and some day I will live right; I don't intend to be lost." One Sunday I noticed him leave the church. Little did he know he would never return. In a few days the message came that he had died suddenly. I rushed over, and as I lifted the white sheet I looked into the pale face of a man who had said a few hours before, "Not now." His wife, who was a member of the church, with tears in her eyes and running down her cheeks, said, "Brother Timmerman, do you think he could have asked God to save him before he died?" His memory will live on somewhere.

LISTEN, cold, indifferent, lukewarm Christian, you had better remember that there is coming a reckoning day. If you are not doing your best for God, you had better begin now. We cannot help what is in the past; neither can we go back and erase it, but we can live today so that on tomorrow as we look back we will have nothing to fear. I have been in the ministry for seventeen years and have enjoyed working for God, but if God permits me to preach seventeen more years, I want to be able to look back with fonder memories than ever before. I have often thought of death and imagined that in that hour all you have ever done would come back to you. The statement of Dwight L. Moody when as he was dying is great. He said, "This is my coronation day. If this is death, it is sweet." But it can only be so with a person who has come to that hour knowing he has done his best for God. In concluding this little sermon, let me urge you to live every day so that in days to come you will not look back to today with remorse and regret, but that you can leave this old world with the praises of God upon your lips and a shout in your heart, knowing all is well for all eternity.

THE SECRET OF PEACE

The study of God's Word will secure peace. Take those Christians who are rooted and grounded in the Word of God, and you will find they have great peace; but it is those who don't study their Bible, who are easily offended when some little trouble comes, or some little persecution. Just a little breath of opposition, and their peace is all gone.—**D. L. Moody.**

I Love You

By A. V. Beaube

IN ORDER to be able to express one's thoughts to another, there must necessarily be some code of words, signs, letters, or figures which are understood by both parties concerned. The stenographer has learned a number of characters, each of which means a word or phrase to her. To most of us they are just so many lines, dots, dashes, curves, etc. The telegraph operator has learned a code of dashes and dots which convey a message to some one at a distance who is acquainted with the same system of communication.

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The law was instituted with all of its rituals. The best that could be said of it was that it "was our schoolmaster." The law and the prophets were until John.

GOD'S WAY OF SAYING "I LOVE YOU"

On the Mount of Transfiguration, the over zealous apostles were willing to remain under the instruction of Moses and Elias, for said Peter, "Master, it is good for us to be here: let us make three tabernacles, one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias." But the instruction given from heaven was, "This is my beloved Son: hear him."

St. John 1:14, "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us...full of grace and truth." In other words, there was in the Man Christ Jesus, God's will for us. That was God's way of saying to all mankind, "I love you." The yellow, the black, the red, the brown, and the white man can understand Him. The rich, the poor, the wise, and the unwise; the sick, the well, the blind, the deaf, the dumb, the crippled, the despondent, the blue, the happy, the gay, all may know Him.

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Our Lord and Saviour came,
And Jesus was His name;
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A Man of sorrow, tears, and agony.

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My all in all!
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And all God's fulness dwelleth in Him.

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DWELT, the past tense of the verb "dwell", which means "to abide as a resident." He came and stayed with us. He was not a visitor nor an overnight guest, but He stayed until it could be said, **"It is finished."** Among us, like other boys, He grew up. Isaiah 53:2, "For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant." Luke 2:51, 52, "And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." He was baptized and was tempted of Satan. Note Matthew 4:1-11. He was put to the test on every human appetite. The writer of the book of Hebrews says that He was tempted in every point like we are.

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He was often seen and heard at the places of worship instructing the people concerning the kingdom of God. He was found praying many times, sometimes all night. He was interested in suffering humanity; in fact, He bore our grief and carried our sorrows. He wept with those who wept.

He was not a man of the ivory palace type, yet He offered salvation to all. He was born in a borrowed or rented manger; sent one of His followers fishing to get money to pay taxes; preached from hillsides, lake shores, borrowed boats, streets, and the Temple; healed the sick, fed the hungry, and preached the gospel to the poor, yet He never used His great power to satisfy His own desires.

He was rich, the co-owner of all the wealth of the world, yet He rode into Jerusalem on another man's donkey. His father created all the trees of the forest, but He calmly submitted to death on a piece of one of them furnished by the Romans. He was before the rocks were brought into existence, yet His friend had to put His body in his own new tomb which was hewn out of a rock. Yes, truly the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

FULL OF GRACE

GRACE is an unmerited favor, something to which we have no rightful claim. We have the expression "thirty days of grace," or "if out of your good graces you can grant this favor."

We have seen some good people who were very kind and good, yet somewhere in their lives they had shown a bit of selfishness. But Jesus was full of grace, for you must remember that He was the Word made flesh and was revealing God to man.

When talking to a woman of Samaria, who was living beneath the good moral standard of society, He offered her living water, calculated to cause her to lose her desire for base and sinful living, for He said, "Whosoever drinketh of this water that I shall give will never thirst."

When a poor devil-possessed creature came to Him, He cast all seven of the demons out of her and permitted her to be one of the first witnesses of His resurrection.

After Peter had cursed and denied Him in the crisis of His life, He recommissioned him and asked him to feed His sheep and strengthen the brethren.

Although the thief had waited until the last minute to acknowledge Him and ask for mercy, He stopped crying long enough to save him. Cruel hands apprehended Him, beat Him, abused Him in every way known to them. Blasphemous mouths accused, cursed, and ridiculed Him, but He humbly prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Yes, He was full of grace.

FULL OF TRUTH

SEE HIM yonder after His betrayal as He is arraigned before Pilate, being questioned concerning His disciples and His doctrine. Jesus answers, "I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whether the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing," John 18:20.

Pilate asks, "What is truth?" Jesus has the answer recorded in the 17th chapter and 17th verse of St. John, "Thy word is truth." Hear the testimony of the Pharisees. Matthew 22:17, "Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth." Another group, when questioning Him hear His great words, "Well, Master, thou hast said the truth," Mark 12:32.

Some were sent to bring Him into trial, but they came back without Him and were asked, "Why have you not brought Him?" They replied, "Never man spake like this man." When trying to console and enlighten His followers, He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the light." One of His close followers, who had a right to know, spoke in later years and said, "There was no guile found in his mouth."

He was full of truth, for He is the Truth, and "you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." How does God say, "I love you"? John 3:16, 17, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

"God commended His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

OUR WAY OF SAYING TO GOD, "I LOVE YOU"

I LOVE YOU, MOTHER," said little Nell. "I love you more than tongue can tell." But she puffed and pouted all the day, til' her mother was glad when she went to play. "I love you, Mother," said little Fan. "Today I'll help you all I can." So she cleaned the room, the floor, and desk. Now, which one of these loved her best?

John 4:16-21, "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love him, because he first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom

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He was often seen and heard at the places of worship instructing the people concerning the kingdom of God. He was found praying many times, sometimes all night. He was interested in suffering humanity; in fact, He bore our grief and carried our sorrows. He wept with those who wept.

He was not a man of the ivory palace type, yet He offered salvation to all. He was born in a borrowed or rented manger; sent one of His followers fishing to get money to pay taxes; preached from hillsides, lake shores, borrowed boats, streets, and the Temple; healed the sick, fed the hungry, and preached the gospel to the poor, yet He never used His great power to satisfy His own desires.

He was rich, the co-owner of all the wealth of the world, yet He rode into Jerusalem on another man's donkey. His father created all the trees of the forest, but He calmly submitted to death on a piece of one of them furnished by the Romans. He was before the rocks were brought into existence, yet His friend had to put His body in his own new tomb which was hewn out of a rock. Yes, truly the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

GRACE is an unmerited favor, something to which we have no rightful claim. We have the expression "thirty days of grace," or "if out of your good graces you can grant this favor."

FULL OF GRACE

We have seen some good people who were very kind and good, yet somewhere in their lives they had shown a bit of selfishness. But Jesus was full of grace, for you must remember that He was the Word made flesh and was revealing God to man.

When talking to a woman of Samaria, who was living beneath the good moral standard of society, He offered her living water, calculated to cause her to lose her desire for base and sinful living, for He said, "Whosoever drinketh of this water that I shall give will never thirst."

When a poor devil-possessed creature came to Him, He cast all seven of the demons out of her and permitted her to be one of the first witnesses of His resurrection.

After Peter had cursed and denied Him in the crisis of His life, He recommissioned him and asked him to feed His sheep and strengthen the brethren.

Although the thief had waited until the last minute to acknowledge Him and ask for mercy, He stopped crying long enough to save him. Cruel hands apprehended Him, beat Him, abused Him in every way known to them. Blasphemous mouths accused, cursed, and ridiculed Him, but He humbly prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Yes, He was full of grace.

SEE HIM yonder after His betrayal as He is arraigned before Pilate, being questioned concerning His disciples and His doctrine. Jesus answers, "I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whether the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing," John 18:20.

FULL OF TRUTH

Pilate asks, "What is truth?" Jesus has the answer recorded in the 17th chapter and 17th verse of St. John, "Thy word is truth." Hear the testimony of the Pharisees. Matthew 22:17, "Master, we know that thou art true, and teachest the way of God in truth." Another group, when questioning Him hear His great words, "Well, Master, thou hast said the truth," Mark 12:32.

Some were sent to bring Him into trial, but they came back without Him and were asked, "Why have you not brought Him?" They replied, "Never man spake like this man." When trying to console and enlighten His followers, He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the light." One of His close followers, who had a right to know, spoke in later years and said, "There was no guile found in his mouth."

He was full of truth, for He is the Truth, and "you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." How does God say, "I love you"? John 3:16, 17, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

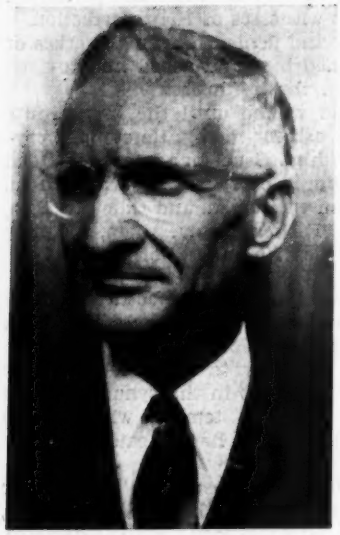
"God commended His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

I LOVE YOU, MOTHER," said little Nell. "I love you more than tongue can tell." But she puffed and pouted all the day, til' her mother was glad when she went to play. "I love you, Mother," said little Fan. "Today I'll help you all I can." So she cleaned the room, the floor, and desk. Now, which one of these loved her best?

OUR WAY OF SAYING TO GOD, "I LOVE YOU"

John 4:16-21, "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. We love him, because he first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom

(Continued on page 10)



A View of Life

By REVEREND I. S. CRUMPTON *(Father)*

Here, no doubt, is the thing Christ had in mind when He said in Saint Matthew 16:26, **"For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"**

IT IS TRUE you may gain wealth, knowledge, riches, and fame in this world, and when you come to the end of this life, without your soul is saved, it will be all vanity of vanities. This is what the Preacher had in view. Man's life spent without the saving grace of God will end in utter destruction.

When Paul had spent his life, he did not speak as the Preacher spoke, but he said, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me."

I think both of these preachers have spoken on great important subjects that demand every man's consideration. Solomon, the Preacher, tried to find in this life something temporal that would be satisfying, but he found it not. Neither will we ever be satisfied until we reach that celestial city for which we are striving.

The past did not satisfy; neither does the present altogether satisfy. It is the future in which we are so much interested. And here is our victory: 1 Corinthians 2:9, 10, "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit."

EVERY CHRISTIAN can have this hope, without a doubt, that his toil and labor will bring to him a heavenly treasure, where thieves can not break through and steal. But so many people do not have the future in their minds. They are seeking worldly pleasure and will soon pass off the stage of life, lost and forever doomed. All will be vanity of vanities to them. Those who are called to the harvest fields to labor for souls, having separated themselves from worldly pleasures, will reap their reward and a home in glory.

Ecclesiastes 1:1-3, "The words of the Preacher; the son of David, king in Jerusalem. Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity. What profit hath a man of all his labour which he taketh under the sun?"

We do not think the attitude the Preacher has taken here toward all of life is that it is a failure and nothing is to be accomplished. His view is that of temporal things, and not of eternal things that a Christian can enjoy while here on earth.

The Preacher's attitude is correct in the sense that he speaks of temporal things. Every man has his troubles, disappointments, and sometimes his plans are blasted. So did Job, and he charged his wife as a foolish woman and his friends as miserable comforters. Yet he said, "I know that my Redeemer liveth."

There is pleasure and joy in serving the Lord right here in this present world, and the end everlasting life. But without God all is vanity. So we find that the present system of things is not final. The preacher is speaking of the unsatisfaction of toil this side of the new birth.

When we think of the eternal and unchanging plan of redemption, we know that all of this life is not vanity of vanities. The eye is not satisfied with seeing nor the ear filled with hearing.

2 Corinthians 4:18, "While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." So, when the Preacher said all is vanity of vanities, he was looking at temporal things altogether. But when we get a vision of the new birth, and our souls are saved, we are made to rejoice because of the unsearchable riches of Christ. Yet, the Preacher said in Ecclesiastes 2:3, 10, 11, "I sought in mine heart to give myself unto wine, yet acquainting mine heart with wisdom; and to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was that good for the sons of men, which they should do under the heaven all the days of their life. And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them. . . . Then I looked on all the works that my hands

(Continued on page 10)

We See Jesus

TEXT: Hebrews 2:9, "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."

By S. F. CRUMPTON *(Son)*
Pastor, Church of God, Dunlap, Tenn.

I. We see Him with the Father

WE SEE JESUS portrayed in many instances before His birth in Bethlehem of Judea.

When this great world was created, He preexisted with His Father. Proverbs 8:30, "Then I was by him as one brought up with him, and I was daily his delight; rejoicing always before him."

When the world was created, Jesus was on hand to assist His Father. Even when man was created, God said, "Let us make man." We see Him as He assisted His father again.

As Abraham sat in his tent door gazing at the setting sun, he saw three men approaching him. Abraham said, "Now, Lord, if I have found favor in thy sight, come in and rest yourselves." We see the Lord as He announced to Sarah that she would bring forth a son and be the mother of many nations.

Then, we see Him in the fiery furnace, Daniel 3:25. "He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God."

II. How we see Jesus

THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM, the Child of Nazareth, the Man of Galilee, the Prince of Glory on Calvary, the King of Kings.

He was wonderful in His birth, and He was announced by the angel. Matthew 1:21, "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS, for he shall save his people from their sins."

We see Him in the manger as a son of a woman, and as a babe He was known to all. The shepherds came to see Him in the manger. Luke 2:16, "And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger." They came to see Him as a Saviour and a Life-giver. Luke 2:11, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

As we gaze into the manger we see Him as a Prophet, and the wise men brought myrrh unto Him as a gift. They also brought frankincense for Christ the Priest. and gold for Christ the King. We see God's wonderful Gift of love as it was portrayed in the manger, the One who is worthy of our adoration and praise, the King of kings and Lord of lords, the one and only Basis of Christian unity, the Saviour of mankind. We see Jesus as He gave tidings of great joy. The tokens of the gift given by the shepherds and wise men could not be compared with the token of His love toward mankind. The testimonies of those great men have no comparison with the testimony which Christ left for us.

III. We see Jesus as a boy, the Child of Nazareth

Luke 2:42, "And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast."

HE WAS A REAL BOY, a real fellow, not a sissy. He was physically strong, mentally awake. His intelligence in later life was the result of study in youth. He was a church boy. He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath "as was his custom." He was an obedient boy. He was subject to His parents.

IV. We see Jesus as the Man of Galilee

The Great Physician. Acts 10:38, "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power, who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil, for God was with him." How fair was the work of creation. Sin marred the beauty of God's work. The mission of Jesus was to destroy sin. Though He was the Son of God, He was truly human. He went about using hands, feet, brain, life; doing good to the body, mind, and to the soul. He was our great Example. He didn't send someone in His place, nor direct the work from a swivel chair. He didn't merely accept opportunities, but sought them. He didn't live in a house by the side of the road, but He walked the sandy shores of Galilee, not seeking good things for Himself but seeking good things to impart blessings. We see Him as He fed the five thousand with the five loaves of bread and two fishes. We see Him as He had divine compassion on the blind, the

(Continued on page 11)

RULES

1. Sermons may be submitted for these awards by any licensed minister of the Church of God.

2. All entries must be postmarked not later than July 31, 1953.

3. The sermons chosen for the awards by the judges will be announced in the *Evangel*.

4. Manuscripts must be typewritten, double-spaced, on one side of the paper only. The pages of the manuscript should be numbered. The author's name must appear only on a flyleaf attached to the manuscript, but not on the manuscript itself. (When the entries are received they will be given an identification number, and the judges will judge them without any personality connections.)

5. The decisions of the judges will be final.

6. All sermons submitted become the property of the Publishing House.

7. Manuscripts must be from 1,800 to 2,500 words in length.

8. Any manuscript submitted must not have been published before.

9. Sermons may be inspirational, doctrinal, practical, or evangelistic.

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IN.

FIRST AWARD—$100

The author of the sermon selected by the judges for the first award will receive $100 in cash, and the sermon will be published in the book of best sermons.

SECOND AWARD—$50

The author of the sermon selected by the judges for the second award will receive $50 in cash, and the sermon will be published in the book of best sermons.

THIRD AWARD—$25

The author of the sermon selected by the judges for the third award will receive $25 in cash, and the sermon will be published in the book of best sermons.

ADDITIONAL AWARDS

The judges will select twenty sermons they think are best, and these sermons will be published in the book of best sermons, along with a short sketch of the author's life.

he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from him, that he who loveth God loveth his brother also. "We love him, because he first loved us." God says to man, in the person of His Son, "I love you." Man answers God with a life of service and devotion, "I love you." It is the echo of our souls.

"LOVE THE LORD THY GOD WITH ALL THY HEART." The heart is the seat of the affections. From the heart comes the issues of life. Matthew 12:34, 35, "For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasures of the heart bringeth forth good things." Matthew 6:21, "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Our hearts cause us to speak. So, when we love the Lord with all of our hearts, we will speak rightly. From our heart comes the thoughts which motivate our actions, so when we love the Lord with all our hearts, we will act rightly. The heart is the seat of the affections. So, we will set our affections on things above and not on things of the earth.

"LOVE THE LORD THY GOD WITH ALL THY SOUL." "The soul is that vital, active principle in man which perceives, remembers, reasons, loves, hopes, fears, compares, desires, resolves, adores, imagines, and aspires after immortality."

In the light of the above scripture and definition, if we could love the Lord with all our soul, I am sure He would be well pleased with us. With the soul we should worship Him. "Bless the Lord, O my soul." With all our soul we should remember Him. "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits."

"LOVE THE LORD WITH ALL THY MIND." A person's thinking has much to do with His actions. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee."

One of our first pastors preached on controlling our minds. I remember that he said, "There will come a time when we will have to arrest our mind and bring it back from its wandering." In the language of the farmer, speaking to his team of horses, we must say, "Woe, come back here, Mind." "For as a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." "But his delight is in the law of the Lord: and in his law doth he meditate day and night." "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer."

Philippians 4:8, "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." "Charity thinketh no evil."

How thinketh thou? What is the frame of your mind? What are your plans? Upon what do you meditate? What kind of thinking controls and motivates your life? Answer me these questions, and I can tell you what sort of person you are. I can predict your future. I can tell you where you will spend eternity.

"LOVE THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH." What do we do? Where do we go? How do we act when we get there? How do we use our talents? our money? our time? Eh? Come now, answer me!

"I washed my hands this morning
So very clean and white
And lent them both to Jesus
To work for Him til' night.

"Now little feet be careful
Where you take me to
Anything for Jesus
Only let me do.

"Only one life, t'will soon be past; only what's done for Jesus will last." Did you ever step out early in the morning, or late in the afternoon or evening, and yell, or speak out loudly, and hear what seemed to be a voice, over in the hill, repeating your exact words? An echo! That is what I can fancy I hear now. God speaks from heaven and says, "Here is my Son, my only begotten Son, my Darling, my Word, my Way of saying, 'I love you.' " Then I hear the great Church as it echoes back, not in word, but in deed and in truth, the exact words, "I love you."

We are ready for a life of service, a conserted, consecrated effort, a real spirit of worship and adoration. A sacrificial prayer, a revival, evangelistic effort, a radio program, a mission offering!

A VIEW OF LIFE

(Continued from page 6)

had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun."

We hear Paul say, in 1 Corinthians 15:58, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

So, we see that the Lord has not sent us into the world to spend our labor in vain, but He has given a promise that is as sound as the Rock of Gibraltar and will stand when the world is on fire and the mountains, hills, and seas pass away and time is declared no more. Then we can sing the song of Moses, for we have been redeemed unto God by His blood and shall shine as the brightness of the firmament and as the stars forever and forever.

Just our names on memorial stones might mean vanity of vanities, but if our names are in the Lamb's book of life, it will give us glorified bodies and immortality. This is the victory over vanity of vanities. Amen.

QUESTION BOX

(Continued from page 2)

though it helps, to benefit greatly from this great work.

Naturally, the commentaries I have mentioned touch only the surface of those available. Each commentary has its own merits, and if one chooses to buy a commentary on the entire Bible, and can afford only one, he must choose that commentary with care, selecting the one that will most nearly provide his particular need. All can be purchased from the Church of God Publishing House.

It is not required of every man and woman to be or do something great. Most of us must content ourselves with taking small parts in the chorus, as far as possible without discord.

—Henry Van Dyke.

Man and missions

From the Foreign Missions Executive Secretary's Desk, 1080 Montgomery Avenue, Cleveland, Tennessee—PAUL H. WALKER

Dear fellow laborers in Christ:

Many greetings in the precious name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, King of kings and Lord of lords forever, Praise His name!

I have been greatly blessed in reading the reports of the growing mission interest in America. It helps us to realize that we certainly are not laboring alone, but that you are standing faithfully behind us with your prayers and support.

Margaret Gaines

Today I wish to express an appeal to you who know the worth of prayer; an appeal to you who can give of your means; an appeal to you who have dedicated your lives to Christian service and are seeking God to reveal to you where your service is needed; an appeal that arises from the hearts of three and one-half millions of Tunisians diseased in soul and body, seeking the Deliverer who calmly stated once, "They that are whole need not a physician, but they that are sick"; an appeal that from their need comes rushing through our hearts with the force of a tornado, ripping and tearing from us any self-righteousness or self-confidence, placing us face to face with the need and our total dependence on God to supply that need; an appeal that demands of us the story of deliverance and at the same time demands that we make their need known unto you.

In the mountains, in the plains, and on the plateaus of Tunisia are thousands of little mud "gourbies," the homes of the natives, that are filled with people who have not heard the gospel. In my children's class there are a few representatives of these millions who sing with crude but sweet voices in their own tongue, "When the Roll Is Called up Yonder," "Tell Me the Story of Jesus," and "Jesus Took My Place." Their little faces, oftentimes showing pain in their ill-clothed bodies, glow with joy as they answer in their own terms, "Jesus the Messiah took my place on the cross that I may be cleansed from sin and that I may have life."

In spite of their hunger and thirst for the Truth, they have been taught falsehood so long that it is with difficulty they accept the Truth. For those who do accept Christ there is great opposition. In my children's classes where I have had as many as thirty-three in attendance, I now have eight or ten. The children are forbidden to come, but the songs and the Bible stories they learned with such delight will bear fruit. Oftentimes when I am driven to my knees with an unexpressable burden for their souls, several of them pass the road in front of my house singing, "For God So Loved the World" or some other song. My heart receives great encouragement then, and God assures me that the opposition will triumph only for a season. Patience in service and preseverance in prayer will bring forth springs in the desert and cause the barren land to blossom like a rose. So, with joy we await the promise of the Father.

The Church is growing here. We praise God for the blessings that we have received and the souls that have come to Him.

Pray that the appeal of this people may reach the hearts of each of you and that God will reveal to your heart the part you should play in their deliverance.—Your harvester, Margaret Gaines, c/o Poste Restante, Grande Poste, Tunis, N. Africa.

WE SEE JESUS

(Continued from page 7)

lame, and poor. We see Him as He turned the water into wine at the marriage in Cana.

V. We see Jesus as the Prince of Calvary

Isaiah 50:6, "I gave my back to be smitten and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair. I hid not my face from shame and spitting."

JESUS PAID IT ALL. Galatians 2:20, "The Son of God who loved me, and gave himself for me." Jesus gave His head to wear the crown of thorns for me, His eyes to weep tears, His cheeks to be smitten, His tongue to pray, His shoulders to bear burdens, His back to be ploughed, His side to the spear, His hands to the nails, His feet to the iron spikes, His precious blood, His soul an offering for me. He gave His life for me. Luke 23:33-49. Three men died—One *for* sin, one *to* sin, one in sin. These three prepositions cover the whole human race. "Do not die in sin. Die to it, by receiving as your Saviour Him who died for it in your stead." We see Jesus as He was taken down from the cross and placed in the newly made tomb. On the third day we see Him as the risen Saviour, the First-fruits of the resurrection harvest, "the first-fruits of them that sleep."

Acts 1:3, "To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days and speaking of the things pertaining." We see Jesus as the forty days passed by. He appeared to His disciples, and when they saw Him they worshiped Him. But some doubted. We see Jesus as He led His disciples out on the Mount of Olives and blessed them. Suddenly, He was caught up into heaven. Two angels came and stood beside them, clothed in beautiful garments of white. They said, "Men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus who is taken up from you into heaven will come again in the same manner as he went away."

Others can see Jesus in our lives. We will go and preach the gospel to all nations. We will contend earnestly for the faith. We will give Christ first place in our lives. We will study His Word. We will return good for evil. We will let our light shine for Him. We will be men of prayer. We will expect and shall see Jesus at His second coming.

reports

SNOWD BRANCH CAMP MEETING, 1953

WASHINGTON, N. C.—Snowd Branch camp meeting convened Sept. 3-13. Rev. S. A. Luke, state youth director, was evangelist, with visiting ministers from surrounding churches participating. From the very first night, after each dynamic message, under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, the altar was filled with seekers. Many souls were saved and sanctified, and 14 received the Holy Ghost. On the last week end, Bro. P. H. McCarn, superintendent of the Church of God Orphanage in Kannapolis, and the Girls' Chorus were with us to give a musical program at the Saturday night and Sunday afternoon services. Rev. Earl P. Paulk, state overseer for North Carolina, was present to deliver a stirring message at the Sunday afternoon service. His theme was "Buy the Truth and Sell It Not." Throughout all the camp meeting the campground was thronged with wonderful crowds each evening. On the last week end, especially, we had the largest known attendance. The ministers of the Washington District and surrounding districts cooperated wonderfully during the entire meeting.—I. C. Morris, District Overseer.

KNOXVILLE, Iowa—On Sunday, September 27, many enjoyed the home coming at the Church of God in Knoxville, Iowa. In the morning worship, Reverend Freeman, our pastor, brought the message. Two transfers were accepted. After morning service, everyone went to the basement for a basket dinner.

Special music was furnished by a 13-piece orchestra and several good special singers from different towns. Brother Wren of Oskaloosa was the afternoon speaker. Everyone enjoyed his inspiring message. The power of God was felt in our midst. We wish to thank everybody who helped make it an enjoyable home coming. But most of all we thank God for His presence.

Sunday evening was the opening service of our revival, with Sister Blakely of Des Moines as evangelist. We want a good, heaven-sent, Holy Ghost revival, with souls being saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost.

We have just remodeled and painted our church. Everything looks bright and clean. We give God the credit for making this possible. We thank everyone who helped in this remodeling program. — Harriett Gee, Reporter.

REPORT FROM LEE COLLEGE

From Alaska, from the Virgin Islands, from California, from points distant and near, students have come to attend Lee's 1953-54 term.

This year's enrollment of 513 is 30 per cent greater than last year's 391. College officials consider this increase a definite answer to prayer and wish to thank the ministry and laity of the Church of God for encouraging our young people to attend Lee.

The seven states with the greatest number of students at Lee are: Tennessee, 84; Florida, 53; South Carolina, 37; Alabama, 34; Ohio, 33; Georgia, 32; and North Carolina, 32.

Represented this year are 36 states and 6 foreign countries. We give thanks to God for an institution which attracts young men and women from all over the world.

Four hundred eight-four of the students are Christians, and 471 are members of the Church of God. All of the teachers are Church of God members.

The school activities have been marked by great interest and enthusiasm. The school spirit is exceptionally high.

Chapel and week-end services have been unusually good this year. The presence of the Lord has been felt at each meeting. One of the main reasons for these spiritual services is the extensive prayer program in operation on the campus. The students are seeking God continually, and there have been far-reaching results of this constant communion with our heavenly Father.

We want the prayers of God's people everywhere. Pray that His hand will direct the teachers and administrators of this school and help them to be a great blessing to the wonderful group of young people on the Lee College campus.—Reporter.

LAKEDALE, N. C.—We praise the Lord for the way He is blessing the Church of God here. We feel that our pastor, Rev. R. P. Fields, came here in the will of the Lord. Our church has increased in membership; our Sunday School has a great increase, and is still growing. Our attendance is so large we can hardly seat everyone. Our mid-week prayer service is like a camp meeting. We have also built a modern 5-room parsonage since Brother Fields has been here. He is one of the best ministers, and we feel so fortunate in having him as our pastor. Sister Fields is such a wonderful worker, especially with the children. Keep an eye on Lakedale Church of God and see it progress.—Sister Bernece Britt, Reporter.

The picture is of the Pittsburg, Kansas, church, where Rev. W. J. Millwood is pastor. The following is what one of the members has to say about it:

"It is with great pleasure that I report our accomplishments and the great interest in our church. We love and appreciate our pastor, wife, and family. The church has taken on new interest and is growing in each department, for which we are thankful. We have broken our Sunday School record five times and tied once since the Assembly. Our church is reaching out and getting new people into our services. We have had to make arrangements to receive the overflow. Folding doors have been purchased for our Sunday School rooms whereby we make an extension onto our main auditorium.

"By our laboring together, we expect to see greater things accomplished for the church."

revivals

CORRECTION

In last week's Evangel a report of the Landis, North Carolina revival stated that "approximately 2 testified in the final service that they had been healed during the revival." This should have read, "Approximately 250 testified in the final service that they had been healed during the revival."

ALABAMA

KENNEDY, Ala.—We have just had a 2 weeks' revival, with Brother James Kelley, of Enterprise, as the evangelist. There were several saved and sanctified, and one received the Holy Ghost. Eight joined the church and 2 came in by transfer. Brother Kelley is certainly a consecrated worker for the Lord. I am sure he will be a blessing to any church.—J. I. Burnett, Pastor.

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FLORIDA

CLEARWATER, Fla.—On September 13 we closed a 3 weeks' revival, with Evangelist Woodrow Morgan, of Cleveland, Tenn. There were 55 saved, 35 sanctified, 22 filled with the Holy Ghost, and many healed by the power of God, for which we give God praise. —Reporter.

FERNDALE, Fla. — In our three weeks' revival 9 were saved, 9 sanctified, 4 baptized with the Holy Ghost, 5 added to the church, 3 transfers received, 3 baptized in water, and many healed. The church was really stirred. The Holy Ghost was poured out upon us. Sister Eula Mae Williams was our evangelist.—Mrs. F. R. Mickler, Reporter.

MACCLENNY, Fla.—We have just closed a wonderful 3 weeks' revival, with Sister Grace D. Bell as evangelist. Many were saved and sanctified, and 7 received the Holy Ghost. The ladies had prayer meeting every morning from 9 until 10 o'clock. Then, all the prayer band went visiting in homes, praying for the sick and backsliders. Most of them were reclaimed. In the afternoon Sister Bell ran a flower school, teaching the Willing Workers how to make flowers to help raise money for the church. Sister Bell can be contacted at Route 3, Box 504, Pensacola, Florida.—L. B. Hammond, pastor.

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GEORGIA

TELEGRAM

COLUMBUS, Ga. — Great revival, with Evangelist Roy Horton, closed in blaze of victory, with 35 saved, 20 sanctified, 16 Holy Ghost baptism, 29 added to church in three weeks. Sunday School record broken with 225 present. Twenty-ninth Street, Columbus, out to win National Contest. Brother Horton great soul winner.—L. O. Peck, Pastor.

LYONS, Ga.—Sister Mary Hampton, of Graham, Ga., conducted a 4 weeks' revival at Saint Matthews Church of God. Many were blessed, including a Johnson Corner schoolteacher who received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. —Mrs. Ella Ross, Pastor.

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INDIANA

AUSTIN, Ind.—Revs. Lynn Ivy and Rabon Froud, of South Bend, Indiana, were the evangelists in our wonderful revival. There were 7 saved, 2 sanctified, one filled with the Holy Ghost, and 10 added to the church. We enjoyed their singing from night to night, and the revival fire is still burning.—G. Stone, Jr., Clerk.

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KENTUCKY

TELEGRAM

RICHMOND, Ky.—Two weeks' revival just closed at Richmond, Ky. Fatie C. Atkinson, evangelist. Several experiences. Large crowds. Twenty-three joined the church.—Ed. Denham, Pastor.

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LOUISIANA

SHREVEPORT, La.—The Cedar Grove Church of God had a two weeks' revival, with Brother and Sister E. N. Wright, of Hattiesburg, Miss., in which seven were saved, six baptized in water, and two added to the church. This was the greatest spiritual revival we have ever had in this church. Many hearts were rededicated and consecrated to better service to the Lord.

Brother and Sister Wright are the finest evangelistic couple we have ever met. They work and sing beautifully together, and Brother Wright is an outstanding minister of the gospel. Each evening Brother Wright prayed for the sick and afflicted and those desiring a closer walk with the Lord. Many miracles and wonders were seen in our midst. People were healed of various organic diseases. One sister was gloriously healed of two tumors; they were almost instantly dissolved by the power of God. Another was almost totally blind. Brother Wright prayed for her. She began to see and distinguish various colors. A man was deaf in one ear and was instantly healed and heard perfectly. Brother Wright's kind, loving, sincere attitude toward God and man makes one to know that God is with him. Never have we seen a young minister so endued with the mighty power of God. We know he will be a blessing wherever he goes.

We greatly appreciate our fine pastor and his family, Brother T. K. Shoemaker. Surely God was good to us in sending him to this church.—Mrs. G. O. Allen.

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OHIO

CINCINNATI, Ohio—Never in our church history have we, of Cincinnati—Hatmaker Street—had such a revival as the one that closed Sunday, October 11, 1953.

Our evangelist was D. R. Moreland; our pastor is I. W. Maness. Seventeen souls were saved, 3 sanctified, 3 baptized with the Holy Ghost, and 13 added to the church. We were reluctant to have Brother Moreland leave us.—Charles R. Hollis, Clerk.

EAST HAMILTON, Ohio—We have just had a good revival, with a number of souls saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost. Many were healed in the special healing services. The evangelist was Rev. Roy Dagnan, of Wallins Creek, Ky. Our pastor, Rev. Pearl B. Frazier, is doing a good work here.—Reporter.

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PENNSYLVANIA

APOLLO, Pa.—We have had the most wonderful revival we have ever had. Sister Pearl Confer, of Muskogee, Fla., was the evangelist. Four souls were reclaimed for God, for which we give Him praise. The church was greatly revived.—John M. Cunningham, Pastor.

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SOUTH CAROLINA

PELZER, S. C.—We have just closed a great revival, with Rev. N. A. Jordan, of Easley, S. C., as the evangelist. Fourteen souls were saved, 11 sanctified, and 8 filled with the Holy Ghost. Many definite healings were reported. We praise the Lord for a man such as Reverend Jordan and his family.—Mrs. M. R. Schroeder, Reporter.

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TENNESSEE

BRISTOL, Tenn.—We are, indeed, thankful to report one of the most successful revivals of our church, with Brother Charles Batson, of Nashville, Tenn., as the evangelist. There were 26 saved, 12 sanctified, 16 filled with the Holy Ghost, 16 baptized in water, and 14 added to the church. Brother Batson's unusual musical talent, his singing, and gospel messages are dedicated to one purpose—winning souls to Christ.

We could not close this report without praising God for having brought our pastor, Brother C. T. Dunn, back to us from an almost fatal heart attack. As pastor and church reunite their efforts, we feel the greatest future of our church in winning lost souls of Bristol is just ahead.—Mrs. Irene H. Waters, Clerk.

BLACK OAK, Tenn.—We have just closed one of the greatest revivals we have had in some time, with Rev. Ernest Mills and wife, of Doyle, Tenn., as evangelists. Brother Mills preached under the anointing of the Holy Ghost, and people were healed. One woman, who had little knots growing on her hand, was healed while he was preaching. There were 16 saved, 8 sanctified, 6 filled with the Holy Ghost, 8 baptized in water, and 7 added to the church. We surely thank God for sending Rev. and Mrs. J. J. Smith to us as pastor. The Sunday School and Y.P.E. are growing.—Odel Rice.

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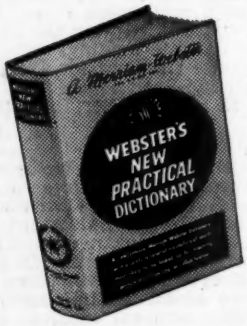

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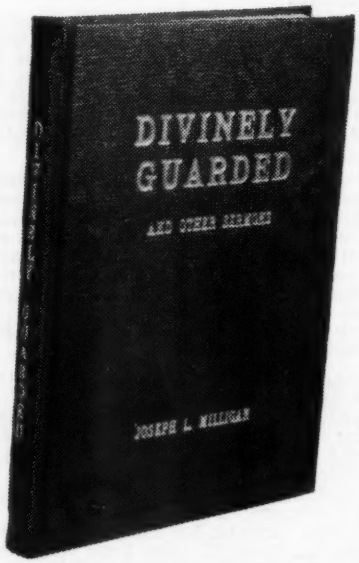

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religious news

A REPORT: FIVE YEARS OF PERSECUTION IN COLOMBIA

IBAQUE, Colombia (EP) The Evangelical Confederation of Colombia, Apartado aereo 534, Nacional 4 Ibague, Colombia, South America, has appointed Mr. James Goff, Presbyterian U.S.A. missionary to Colombia for the past six years, as the new Secretary of Information for the Confederation and editor of the **News Bulletin.** The Bulletin is especially concerned with Protestant Christianity in Colombia and the persecution of the Protestant religious minority.

The current issue of the Bulletin gives the following five-year summary of Protestant persecution in Colombia:

"The persecution of Protestants in Colombia, South America, carried on by violent means since 1948, was studied in detail by the 45 delegates to the 4th General Assembly of the Evangelical Confederation of Colombia (CEDEC) during their five-day meeting in Ibague, Department of Tolima, August 10-14, 1953. CEDEC's Office of Information released the following persecution statistics.

"Destruction of Churches. Forty-two church buildings have been completely destroyed by fire and dynamite, and thirty-one other buildings used by Protestant churches have been damaged. During the same 5-year period, ten structures on church properties were confiscated by government officials or civilians backed by National Police.

"Protestant Schools Closed. Since 1948, 110 Protestant primary schools have been closed, 54 of them by government order, the others because of violence against Protestants. As there are in Colombia approximately 1,000,000 children of school-age for whom there are no public school facilities, this arbitrary closing of Protestant primary schools has aggravated an already critical educational problem. The 3,343 children of Protestants who attended the schools now closed are being deprived of the opportunity to a primary education.

"Protestants Killed. Fifty-one Colombian Protestants have been murdered because of their religious faith during the 5-year period under study. This mid 20th Century list of martyrs includes men, women, and children. Twenty-eight of the deaths occurred at the hands of the National Police and government officials.

"Property Damage. The financial loss sustained by Churches and Missions in Colombia has been over 370,000 pesos (equivalent to U. S. $148,000) in buildings destroyed, damaged or confiscated. This figure represents but a fraction of the total property loss suffered by the Protestants of Colombia, many of whom have lost farms, cattle, harvests, homes, tools, clothing, books, etc."

Reports to the Assembly indicated a 51 per cent increase in Protestant Church membership since 1948, although during that period 27 per cent of the Protestant Churches of Colombia and 38 per cent of their preaching points were closed by the action of National Police and fanatical Roman Catholics. Over 50,000 Colombians and about 750 foreigners attend Protestant religious services each week. The total Protestant constituency is estimated at over 100,000 people. In 1948 there were 213 Protestant churches and chapels. During the five years of religious persecution, 57 have been destroyed or closed. During the same period 46 new churches were organized. There are now 202 organized churches open in Colombia.

The growth in church membership was from 7,908 members in 1948 to 11,958 in 1953. The Protestant churches do not count children as members until they have reached an age of understanding (usually in the 'teens) and make a voluntary profession of faith. 14,991 Colombians are enrolled in Protestant Sunday Schools. The CEDEC census includes only continental Colombia. The Archipelago of San Andres Y Providencia, Colombian possession in the Caribbean Sea, has about 7,500 people, almost all Protestant.

FIRST NEGRO NAMED TO NATIONAL LUTHERAN COMMITTEE

CHICAGO (EP) For the first time in the history of the National Lutheran Council, a Negro has been named to a committee supervising work which the agency carries on for its eight participating church bodies. He is Dr. T. R. Speigner, a pastor of the American Lutheran Church who is professor of history and student counselor at North Carolina State at Durham. He has been named to the Sub-Committee for Church Work in Negro Communities of the NLC's Division of American Missions. For 17 years, Dr. Speigner was principal of the now disbanded Martin Luther Institute at Tuscaloosa, Ala., then a high school of the American Lutheran Church. At the same time, he served as pastor of Christ Lutheran Church in Tuscaloosa.

According to a survey made by the Seventh-day Adventist Voice of Prophecy radio program, to which 10,000 persons responded, "The Old Rugged Cross" was voted the favorite hymn. Others, in order of their preference, were: "The Love of God," "In the Garden," "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," "Beyond the Sunset," and "Precious Lord, Take My Hand."

Twenty-five hundred delegates attended the 25th biennial convention of the Assemblies of God, America's largest Pentecostal group. Membership in the 40-year-old group increased 38 per cent since 1943, to a present membership of 370,118. They report 6,362 churches, and support 700 foreign missionaries.

From all over the country come reports of a revival of faith healing. Tents were crowded with as many as 5,000 people at faith healing services held recently at Tulsa, Okla. and Wichita, Kansas. A similar movement is under way at Ashland, Oregon, where the many hundreds seeking help from a local faith healer provide the community's main source of income.

EDITORS AGAIN URGE USE OF RSV

ST. LOUIS, Missouri (EP) Editors of the official periodicals of the church bodies associated in the National Lutheran Council still want the new Revised Standard Version of the Bible used as the text for the epistle and gospel lessons in the forthcoming Service Book and Hymnal of the Lutheran Church. In effect, a resolution adopted at the 41st annual convention of the National Lutheran Editors' and Managers' Association, September 23, 24, asks the Joint Commission on the Liturgy to reconsider its recent decision on the controversial issue.

The commission, composed of 17 representatives of the eight groups engaged in the project, decided to use neither the RSV nor the Authorized King James Version of the Bible for the stated lessons in the common service book, scheduled for publication in 1955. Instead, it was agreed, the book will contain Scripture references only, but separate lectionaries in each version will be made available. Explaining the action, the commission said the compromise was reached because "the expressed opinions of the churches are not unanimous" on which version should be used. Any other solution, it added, "would force an undesired text on half the church."

The resolution passed by the editors reiterated a stand taken in 1951 and reaffirmed last year. With "increased emphasis," it urged that "serious consideration should be given to the desirability" of adopting the Revised Standard Version, published last year, for the appointed lessons in the service book.

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21 m And they went into Ca-per-na-um; and straightway on the
sabbath day he entered into the
synagogue, and taught.
22 o And they were astonished

17. 18
1 Or, to say that they knew him
m Mat. 4. 13
Luke 4. 31
n Luke 4. 48
o Mat. 7. 28

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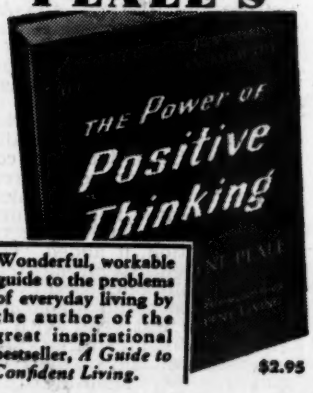

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